This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A transport system, the system comprising:

~~a source having a number of encoders configured to packetize broadcast television signals; and~~

an RF combiner configured to combine three video protocol streams carrying differently-encoded versions of the same audiovisual content to a consumer equipment, wherein a first one of the video transport protocol streams contains the audiovisual content directly encoded according to a video transport protocol; and

a bi-directional data communication unit (BDCU) configured to provide second and third ones of the video protocol streams to the RF combiner, wherein the second one of the video protocol streams contains packets having payloads that contain a combination of the audiovisual content and other Internet Protocol data, and the third one of the video protocol streams contains packets having payloads that contain only the audiovisual content ~~located remotely from the source and configured to communicate packetized data signals between customer equipment (CE) and a network according to data transmission protocols, the BDCU including a multiplexer for integrating the packetized television signals with the packetized data signals for transport to the CE in an integrated transport stream defined as a function of the data transmission protocols~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising a source of the audiovisual content, wherein the source includes at least one multiplexer configured to combine a plurality of ~~the~~ packetized television signals into a multiple program transport stream (MPTS), and to ~~prior to~~ transport the MPTS to the BDCU.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 further comprising a video server ~~in~~ configured ~~for packetizing~~to packetize streaming video and wherein the multiplexer of the BDCU is configured to integrate the packetized streaming video with ~~the~~ packetized television signals and data signals for transport to ~~the CE~~consumer equipment (CE) in ~~the~~ an integrated transport stream.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5 wherein the ~~further comprising a~~ network communicator is configured to encapsulate the packetized streaming video ~~signals~~ for network communication ~~prior to~~and transport it to the BDCU.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of providing multimedia ~~signals~~ content from a source to ~~customer~~ consumer equipment (CE) ~~in a system having a bi-directional data communication unit (BDCU) configured for communicating data signals between the CE and a network, the method~~ comprising:

encapsulating a first copy of audiovisual (AV) data as payload in packets according to a video transport protocol to form a first video transport stream;

encapsulating Internet Protocol (IP) data as payload in packets according to a modem protocol, combining the modem protocol packets with a second copy of the AV data, and encapsulating the combination as payload in packets according to the video transport protocol to form a second video transport stream;

encapsulating a third copy of the AV data as payload in packets according to the modem protocol, and encapsulating the modem protocol packets as payload in packets according to the video transport protocol to form a third video transport stream; and

transmitting a combination of the three video transport streams from a common transmitter and onto a common medium.

~~receiving the multimedia signals at the BDCU;~~

~~integrating the received multimedia signals with a BDCU transport; and~~

~~transmitting the integrated transport from the BDCU to the CE.~~

8. (Canceled).

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~9~~ 7 further comprising configuring the ~~multimedia signals~~ IP data according to a real-time transport protocol~~s~~ (RTP) prior to encapsulation according to the modem protocol.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 further comprising configuring the RTP-configured IP data ~~multimedia signals~~ according to user datagram protocols (UDP) or transmission control protocols (TCP) prior to encapsulation according to the modem protocol.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the video transport protocol is an ~~12 further comprising configuring the transport according to~~ MPEG-2 protocol~~s~~.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the modem protocol is a ~~further comprising configuring the BDCU for communicating the integrated signals according to~~ data over cable service interface specifications (DOCSIS) transport protocol.

17-24. (Canceled)